

RESTITUTION
TO THE
Royal Author
OR A
VINDICATION
OF

King *CHARLS* the Martyr's
most Excellent BOOK; Intituled
'ΕΙΚΩΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ

From the False, Scandalous, and Malicious Reflections lately
Published against it.

L I C E N S E D,

May 10. 1691:

Z. Iſham.



C R

L O N D O N;

Printed for *Samuel Keble*, at the Great *Turks-Head* in *Fleet-street*,
over against *Fetter-Lane-end*. 1691.

RESOLUTION

UN

RESTITUTION

TO THE

ROYAL AUTHOR:

OR A

Vindication of King *Charles* the Martyr's most Excellent Book Intituled, Εἰκὼν Βασιλικὴ from the False, Scandalous, and Malicious Reflections lately Published against it.

MR. *Milton's* Εἰκονοκλάστης being lately reprinted, the Editor has thought fit, out of what design he best knows, to prefix the following *Advertisement* to his Book,

ADVERTISEMENT.

Whereas a Book, called Eikon Basilike, or King Charles the First's Meditations, is most commonly reported and believed by many, especially the Clergy, to be composed by King Charles the First; the following Insertion of the Noble Lord Anglesey, under his own hand, was found by Edward Millington, prefixt to one of the Books, reputed to be King Charles the First's.

Which Memorandum, if the Declaration of two Kings may be believed, is sufficient to satisfy the World, how much that King was imposed upon by Dr. Gauden Bishop of Exeter,

MEMORANDUM.

King Charles the Second and the Duke of York, did (both in the last Session of Parliament, 1675. when I shewed them in the Lords House, the Written Copy of this Book, wherein are some Corrections and Alterations, written with the Late King Charles the First's own Hand,) assure me that this was none of the said Kings compiling, but made by Dr. Gauden Bishop of Exeter, which I here insert for the undeceiving of others in this Point, by attesting so much under my Hand.

Anglesey.

Now to prevent the ill Impressions, which may possibly be occasion'd by the abovementioned *Memorandum*, and to restore this Incomparable Book to the just Priviledge of its Royal Author, I shall very briefly do these two things.

A 2

I. Shew

I. Shew some Marks of Suspicion upon the *Advertisment*.

II. Supposing it had all the pretended advantages, I shall produce such proof against it, which, the Circumstances of the Evidence considered, must be allowed an over Ballance to his Lordships Attestation.

I. There are some things in the *Advertisment* which render the Credit of it very questionable. For 1. It calls the Duke his then Royal Highness, *the Duke of York*, which was no Court Language in 1675; there being neither Reason nor Custom for such a length of Distinction at that time. Now its somewhat unlikely, that a Person of Honor and a Courtier, especially one of my late Lord *Anglesey's* Sense, should be guilty of such an Impropriety. 2. We are inform'd by the *Advertisment*, that in the *Written Copy* of the *Εἰκὼν Βασιλικὴ* There are some Corrections and Alterations written with the late King Charles the first his own Hand; which is no contemptible Argument, if we had no other, that the King was the Author; otherwise we shall be at a loss for the reason of his Majesty's Correcting the Manuscript, and suffering it to pass under the Title of his own Composition. 3. The making Bishop *Gauden* the Author of this Book is another disadvantage to the credit of the *Memorandum*, for the Stile, the Air, and Thought of *Εἰκὼν Βασιλικὴ*, is as different from the management of Bishop *Gauden's* writings, as 'tis possible to imagine; But out of respect to the Bishop's Memory, I shall forbear to insist upon the Comparison. 'Tis likely therefore King Charles the Second and the then Duke, might tell the late Earl of *Anglesey* (which his Lordship might possibly forget) that the Manuscript was not King Charles the First his Hand; but a Transcript of Dr. *Gauden's* writing, which as it agrees with matter of Fact; so it gives a fair account of the *Alterations* in the Copy, which the *Memorandum* grants were made by the King.

II. Supposing this *Memorandum* had all the pretended Advantages; I shall now produce such proof against it, which the Circumstances of the Evidence considered, must be allowed an over ballance to his Lordships Attestation.

1. We have the *Letters Patents* of King Charles the Second, dated November the 29th. 1660. In which *Richard Royston* of London, Bookseller, has the sole privilege given him of Printing all the Works of King Charles the First, amongst which the *Εἰκὼν Βασιλικὴ* is mentioned, with a particular Character and Commendation.

2. The same Privilege for Reprinting the Works of King Charles the First, is granted to the abovemention'd *Richard Royston* by his Pt. Majesty King James the Second, as appears by his Majesties *Letters* dated February 22. 1683. Which grant refers expressly to the first Edition Publish'd by *Richard Royston*, in the year 1662, and in which his Majesty declares that all the Works of his Royal Father were Collected and Publish'd. Which former Impression, as I have already observ'd, makes particular mention of *Εἰκὼν Βασιλικὴ*. Now I leave it to any unprejudiced Person to judge whether 'tis in the least probable, that either of their Majesties should tell the late Earl of *Anglesey*, that this excellent Book was written by Dr. *Gauden*, since they have both own'd it to be their Royal Father's in so publick a manner, so that to use the expression of the *Advertisment*, if the Declaration of two Kings, made with all the Circumstances of Advantage, may be believ'd before a blind Manuscript, written by a doubtful Hand, and grounded upon a private Relation, then we have sufficient evidence to satisfy the World how much this Advertiser has Endeavour'd to impose upon it. To these Royal Testimonies,

testimonies, I shall subjoyn that of Sir. *Will. Dugdale*, who having mention'd the restless Endeavours of the Rebels to lessen his Majesties Reputation, as by other methods of Calumnies and Detraction, so particularly with respect to this Book, assigning it to some other, tho' uncertain, Author. Having remarked this ill usage he delivers his opinion in these words.

But to manifest that these were no borrowed Wares,
 'but by the good and gracious assistance of Almighty God
 'were totally of his own composure in the midst of his
 'most sad afflictions, besides the unlikely-hood that any
 'such expressions could flow from an heart not oppressed and griev'd with such
 'a weight of sorrow as his was; I shall make it evident from the Testimony of
 'very credible Persons yet Living, that he had begun the penning of them
 'long before he went from *Oxford* to the *Scots*: For the Manuscript it self writ-
 'ten with his own hand being found in his Cabinet, which was taken at
 'Nauesby Fight, was restor'd to him after he was brought to *Hampton Court*,
 'by the Hand of Major *Huntington*, thro the favour of General *Fairfax*, of
 'whom he obtain'd it. And that whilst he was in the *Isle of Wight*, it was
 'there seen frequently by Mr. *Thomas Herbert*, who then waited on his Maje-
 'sty in his Bed-chamber; as also by Mr. *William Levet*, (a Page of the back-
 'stairs) the Title then perfix'd to it being *Suspiria Regalia*, who not only
 'read several parts thereof but saw the King divers times writing farther on it.
 'Add hereunto the Testimony of Mr. *Richard Royston* a Bookseller, at the *An-
 'gel* in *Ivy-Lane*; who having in those Rebellious times, adventur'd to Print
 'divers of his Majesty's Declarations, Speeches, and Messages; about the be-
 'ginning of *Oct.* 1648, (the King being then in the *Isle of Wight*) was sent to
 'by his Majesty to prepare all things ready for the printing some papers
 'which he purposed shortly after to convey to him. Which was this very Copy
 'brought to him on the Twenty Third of *December* next following, by one
 'Mr. *Edward Symmons*, a Reverend Divine, who Receiv'd it from Dr. *Bryan
 'Duppa*, then Bishop of *Salisbury*, and afterwards of *Winchester*. In the Print-
 'ing whereof Mr. *Royston* made such speed, that it was finish'd before that
 'dismal Thirtieth of *January*, that his Majesties Life was so taken away,
 'as before is observ'd.

To make the proof more incontestible, if possible, I shall in the last place insert a Letter, transcribed from the Original, written by Mr. *Levet* now Living; the Gentleman mentioned by Sir *William Dugdale* in the place above cited.

The Superscription of the said Letter runs thus,

For *Seymer Bourman, Esq;* near the Arch in *Lincolns-
 Inn Fields*.

Dear Brother

Dear Brother,

YOurs of the 21th. of this instant *April* I received, and one Letter before that to the same effect, *Viz.* To give a true Account of my knowledg of that unparallel'd Book, which his Sacred Majesty, of ever blessed memory, King *Charls* the First (murdered by his own Rebellious Subjects before his own Pallace at *White-hall*, with all the violent and malicious circumstances that wicked Men could invent) which Book, of my certain knowledge, I can depose, was truly His own, having observed His Majesty oftentimes writing His Royal Resentments of the bold and insolent behaviour of His Souldiers (His Rebellious Subjects) when they had Him in their custody. I waited on His Majesty as Page of the Bed-chamber in ordinary during all the time of His Solitudes, (except when I was forced from Him) and especially being nominated by His Majesty to be one of His Servants, amongst others, that should attend Him during the Treaty at *Newport* in the Isle of *Wight*, had the happiness to read the same oftentimes in Manuscript under His Majesties own Hand, being pleased to leave it in the Window in His own Bed-chamber, where I was alwayes obliged to attend His Majesties coming thither. But the Treaty being ended in few dayes after, the Souldiers with One to conduct them, by name Mr. *Anthony Mildmay* then Cup-bearer, came to the Bed-chamber, about ii. of the clock in the Night, and knocked at the door, and one Mr. *Herbert*, Mr. *Kirk*, and my self having some hint of their intentions, were watching in an inward Room, and hearing the noise, went into His Majesties Bed-chamber, and asked, who they were that durst disturb His Majesty at that unseasonable time of the Night, who answered, they were sent to tell the King, He must rise and go with them. We acquainting His Majesty with their design, He was pleased to command us to tell them, He would go with them, but it was not His usual hour to rise so soon, we again acquainted the Souldiers with His Majesties answer. They instead of complying with his Majesty, bid us tell Him, if He did not rise presently they must force Him to it: His Majesty onely said

said, if I must, give me my Cloaths, and so He immediately arose, (Here you may observe a mirrour of Patience in a distressed Prince.) During the time of His Majesties making himself ready, he concern'd himself only how to secure this Book of his, and a small Cabinet, wherein he secured his Letters to his Queen, who was then beyond the Sea, and his Majesty having procured a Pass for me from the Governour that I should wait on him there; He gave me in charge this said Book and small Cabinet, which I faithfully presented to his Majesties own hands that Night in *Hurst-Castle*. But the Governour, by what information is too tedious to insert here at this time, and therefore I omit it, did on the *Saturday* banish me out of the Castle.

I should have sent you a Relation which I had from *Royston*, the Kings Printer, for the Printing the said Book by his Majesties especial Command, brought to him by a Divine, but not to be * printed till after the Kings death, which he observed accordingly, for which *Cromwel* sent for him to *White-hall*, not onely promising Rewards, but also threatning Punishment, if he would not deny, that he printed it by his Majesties Order, which he refusing to do did imprison him for about a fortnight, but seeing he could not work upon him, released him; which is all at present from

From *Savernack Park*
near *Marlborough*,
Apr. 29. 1691.

Your Affectionate Brother

To serve you

* By Printed, is to be
understood, Published.

WILLIAM LEVETT.

These Authorities, together with Remarks upon the *Memorandum* are, I conceive, sufficient to clear the Point in hand, and to give the Reader full satisfaction. I shall just add a word concerning the Prayer, which *Milton* pretends the King took from Sir *Philip Sidney's Arcadia*, and so conclude:

I. We may take notice that the Prayer it self is Grave, Pious, and unexceptionable.

II. This Prayer, as it is observ'd by the excellent Author of *ΕΙΧΩΣ ΔΙΔΑΚΤΟ*, p. 82, Was neither made by an Heathen Woman, nor to an Heathen God (as the

Objection supposes) but composed, as is believed by the Author a Christian, without Reference to any Heathen Deity.

III. This Prayer was not printed with Εὐχὴν Βασιλικὴν in two or three of the First Impressions of that Book, which is an Argument it was not used by the King; but afterward inserted by the Printers for their private advantage. This Inference, besides the reasonableness of it, is the Opinion of the Learned Person abovementioned.

FINIS.

ADVERTISEMENT.

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Rules of more Devout Behaviour in the time of Divine Service in the Church of England.

An Explication of the Terms, Order, and Usefulness of the Liturgy of the Church of England, by way of Question and Answer, recommended to be learned after the Church Catechism.

All Five Printed for Sam. Keble, and are to be Sold at the Great Turks-Head in Fleetstreet over against Fetter-Lane end. 1691.

